

c c: Tom
Task: 4778

From: Paul Baker
To: Fields, Sarah
CC: Munson, Tom
Date: 4/10/2012 4:21 PM
Subject: Re: Un-plugged radon vents at La Sal Mines Complex

Sarah--

Tom Munson went to the site today, and I received a limited report about the two shafts:

"The 700 was good. The 2200 did have a missing piece of grating about one foot square. Mike Palmer is welding a piece on as I write this."

This is all the information I have right now. Tom should be back in the office Thursday if you'd like to call (801-538-5321) or e mail (tommunson@utah.gov) him then.

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>>> Sarah Fields <sarah@uraniumwatch.org> 4/9/2012 2:41 PM >>>
Dear Mr. Baker,

A few months ago I brought to your attention the fact that radon Vent # 700 for the Beaver Shaft Mine (M037026) was not properly plugged and presents a significant hazard. This vent is on private property, so is not subject to federal oversight. Information in the annual and the monthly 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart B compliance reports that Denison Mines (USA) Corp. has submitted to the Utah Division of Air Quality indicates that that vent hole is plugged. As I indicated to you, it has not been plugged.

Has anything been done about that situation?

Also, I recently visited Beaver Shaft Vent #2200. The last monthly compliance report submitted to the DAQ indicated that the vent (on private land) was plugged. (I have not yet received Denison's annual compliance report for 2011, so I don't know what is states for Vent #2200.) There are two vents at the site, one old and one new. The old one has not been plugged. This, too, is a hazard. There is a hole (about 1 sq. ft) in the grate around the metal diffuser. The hole is covered with a piece of metal re-bar, which is held down by a small wooden block.

The other vent is an operational new vent. I do not know when that vent was installed.

Denison never received approval from the DAQ to construct and operate Vent #2200.

This makes a total of 15 vents, 2 portals, and 1 shaft that emit radon or have the potential to emit radon from the La Sal Mines Complex that have not gone through the application and approval process required by 40 CFR Subpart A, §§ 61.07 and 61.8.

Sincerely,

Sarah Fields
Uranium Watch